Centre and State sectors to produce these types of cables and equipments within the country.

For both of them tenders have been floated and are in the final process of stage of evaluation etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A consortium of M|s HCL-ITI have been formed and M|s. HCL have floated global tenders to obtain global tenders to obtain knowhow transfer for setting up the manufacturing facility of Optical fibre and laser Telecommunication Equipment indigenously. The tender is in the final stage of evaluation.

M|s. MPSEDC have also finalised the collaboration for manufacturing Optical fibre and associated equipment indigenously. The necessary formalities for getting clearances from Government regulatory bodies are under process at present.

DMT industry

1847. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in India DMT is costlier due to inefficient management and obsolete technogy; and

(b) if so, what is the plan of Government to update the management and technology so as to meet the challenge in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Apart from factors of management and technology, which would differ from plant to plant, DMT is costlier in India due to various factors such as high cost of Capital equipment, raw-materials energy, conversion, etc.

Prices of multivitamins

1848. SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 13 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st April, 1986 and state:

(a) what are the fresh cases of multivitamins formulations which have been filed in the Bombay High Court in May and June, 1986;

(b) what are the other price fixation orders which were challenged by the drug companies in the Delhi High Court and Bombay High Court after the promulgation of DPCO—1979; and

(c) what is the status of all these cases and what are the details about the company prices and the prices notified by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) M|s. Pfizer Ltd., M|s. Sandoz (India) Ltd., M|s. Abbott Labs. Ltd. have filed Writ Petitions against the prices of multivitamin formulations in the Bombay High Court.

(b) M|s. Fulford India Ltd., M|s. Nicholas Labs. M/s. Duphar Interfran, M|s. Warner Hindustan Ltd., and M|s. John Wyeth and Bros. had earlier filed Writ Petitions in the Bombay High Court. M|s. Fulford India Ltd. has also filed a Writ Petition in the Delhi High Court challenging the provisions of Drug Prices Equalisation Account.

(c) Details of prices in respect of Writ Petitions in the Delhi High Court have already been furnished in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 13 answered on 21st April, 1986.